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Administration notes to Mexico are becoming shorter. That may be a sign that a war is near.

The spirit of the Maid of Orleans seems to have entered into the entire body of the French nation.

Seminole county has just awarded contracts for twenty-six miles of brick roads. Seminole is a little county.

The always generous Tampa Tribune loves its soldier boys. It is mailing a copy free to each member of the Tampa company.

Henry Ford gives good jobs to ex-convicts and discharges members of the national guard. Every man is privileged to choose his own company.

The American consul at Trebizond had charge of that city for several hours between the time the Turkish troops went out and the Russians came in.

The Jacksonville Metropolis says the federal oath was administered to the men of the Second Regiment and they took it like it was candy, none of them balking.

Thorn of the Palm Beach Post is likely to break into the ranks of great American humorists. He has an unique style and is every bit as amusing as George Ade.

Secretary Lansing's polite but emphatic request to the Latin-American republics to mind their own business was the most refreshing and sensible thing done since the A B C tomfoolery began.

The president can now rush a big army bill through Congress without much difficulty.—Times-Union.

If he had been able to rush such a bill through Congress six months ago, we wouldn't be "sending a boy to mill" today.

Cortez, with a dozen or so men, was able to conquer the untold millions of Montezuma's day.—Pensacola Journal.

Cortez had at least 2000 European soldiers and a large force of Indian auxiliaries.

While we are about it, we might "remember Vera Cruz"—and the seventeen American bluejackets who were "sniped" there by the Mexicans.—Augusta Chronicle.

We will be reminded of it most forcibly when we have to take Vera Cruz again.

What doesn't appeal to us is the sense of justice in some people who think that because an American in Mexico is an employee of the Standard Oil company or Hearst, he should be robbed or murdered by the greasers without interference from his government.

If President Wilson was backed up by such a Congress as the one that backed McKinley in 1898, he would have been able to begin to prepare for this Mexican trouble six months ago. It is one of the worst misfortunes of the country that at this time it is cursed with probably the most stupid and mercenary Congress it has ever had.

The Tenth cavalry, a squadron from which was cut up at Carrizal, is the same regiment that saved the Rough Riders from being defeated in the first land fight of the Spanish-American war, immediately after the expedition to Santiago landed at Daiquiri. It is one of the few negro regiments in the army, and has a splendid record.

Van Swearingen, an open and avowed guardian of liberty candidate in Jacksonville, was beaten to a frazzle.—Ocala Star.

Yes, and Nat Bryan, an open and avowed disbeliever in the guardians of liberty, was beaten to a frazzle. Next.—Miami Metropolis.

Next thing is that it is sad to see a paper that claims to be democratic gloating over the defeat of a democrat by men who belong to an order that will not allow them to acknowledge their membership. Beaten tho he may be, Nat Bryan never did anything he was ashamed to have known.

Says the Lakeland Telegram: "Mark this prediction: 'If there is any 'bolting' or independent running or hell-to-paying, it will not be by the adherents of Mr. Knott, but by his opposition. The whole tenor of the latter's expressions and conduct throughout indicates this, and the attitude of the few Catts organs in the state is little short of anarchistic and riot-inciting. Mr. Knott's character—and he has been with us long enough for us to observe it—is such as precludes the idea that he would engage in any crooked work, to secure the

THE STAR'S PHONES

The editor's phone is "51-TWO RINGS" while the business office remains the same. Our friends will save themselves possible annoyance and delay by keeping this in mind when calling up the Star office in future.

governorship, or for any other consideration. His attitude is that merely of a seeker of fairness and justice, and if it is shown that he is fairly defeated, he will gracefully yield to the will of the people, and neither he nor his friends will be heard from further in the matter. His enemies cannot expect more; his friends would not be satisfied with less."

If Mr. Knott had a majority and Mr. Catts instituted a contest, can't you imagine the very virtuous indignation that would be expressed by the very men who are now advising Mr. Knott?—Tampa Tribune.

So far as the Star sees, the Tribune is more afflicted with virtuous indignation than anybody else. Catts hasn't a majority by some thirteen or fourteen thousand votes, and it isn't certain that he has a plurality. We can't see why anybody is aggrieved by Mr. Knott's contest as long as Mr. Knott pays for it. If Catts has a plurality the courts will make his having it a certainty. He isn't being kept out of office by the contest.

Discussing the results of the recent primary, the Ocala Star says: "The governor of Florida is not a czar. He is bound by the law and if he breaks the law, the law will break him." Is the conclusion justified by recent experiences? How was the state made responsible for the drainage of the Everglades after the decision of a primary denying the proposition?—Times-Union.

That dear Times-Union makes some of the most unexpected remarks sometimes. It has unique and peculiar workings in its profound mind. How it draws a parallel between draining the Everglades and de-

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stroying the property of the state or invasion of private rights is something that is clear only to its Swaim-like intellect. The courts might impress on it that there is difference between primary rules and the law of the land and almost any man who loves Florida would be made weary to hear Broward and Catts alluded to in the same sentence. Broward, by the way, like Wilson and Roosevelt, is one of the T-U's pet hates. If you will study the Times-Union, you can't help coming to the conclusion that it generally hates a really big man. It sometimes praises Lee and Forest, but it would probably hate them if they were alive, especially Forrest, because he was unusual. The T-U may pardon Catts for being unusual, because that is his only claim to greatness.

In the war with Mexico, the United States has a long, hard struggle before it. Mexico is weak compared with the United States, but this country has with a fatuous disregard for its own honor and safety stubbornly refused to prepare for war. The Mexican border from the Gulf of Mexico to the Pacific ocean is 1500 miles in length. The entire force of our state troops is not enough to adequately guard it. At present it is not possible to muster more than a hundred thousand regulars, which force is not enough to invade such a vast country as Mexico. The government will probably blockade the Mexican coast, guard the border and strike at the most vulnerable points along it, and meantime try to raise an army. It is not likely that a serious invasion of the country can be undertaken until next spring.

The Second regiment will travel to San Antonio via the Atlantic Coast Line to Montgomery, the L. & N. to New Orleans and the Southern Pacific to San Antonio. The distance over that route is about 1400 miles. San Antonio is in the same latitude with Ocala and is due west of us about 1200 miles. It is 150 miles from the Mexican border, railroads running to Eagle Pass and Laredo on the Rio Grande. It is at present the headquarters of the American army. Fort Sam Houston at San Antonio, where the regiment will be located, is the most important army post in the southwest and one of the oldest, having been established shortly after the annexation of Texas, seventy years ago. San Antonio is a fine city, and our boys will find as much of it as they have time to see of the greatest interest.

When one contrasts the alacrity with which the law moves in trivial cases and how slowly in really serious offenses one is inclined to think there must be something wrong. One sees a woman arrested for throwing a painful dish water in her yard and no arrest made where a man embezzles money, gives a forged check or shoots another, and one feels that the law is not playing fairly; that it has cat's eyes, able to see only mice and roaches.—St. Petersburg Independent.

Ocala has the same optical affliction and fined for selling a few groceries and need for selling a few groceries to her neighbors on Sunday, but a big railroad corporation breaks the law every day for years and the officers of the law are afraid to try to do anything.

The following from the Montgomery Times is a specimen of the opinion of Catts in his home state: "Sydney J. Catts, formerly of Lowndes county, has been nominated by the democracy for governor of the great state of Florida. He removed from Lowndes to the state of Florida less than four years ago. He started a crusade against Catholicism and has won out for the office he sought on an issue of that sort. The editor of the Times has known Mr. Catts for a long time and he is not the kind of man we would have voted for to be elected to any office, much less that of governor of a great and growing state. He could not have been sent to the legislature from the rock-ribbed democratic county of Lowndes."

It will interest the friends of the Ocala Rifles to know that Mrs. Edward Drake, wife of the present commander of the company, is a cousin of Mrs. Davidson, wife of Captain Emmett Davidson, who was in command of the Rifles when they volunteered for the Spanish-American war. Captain Davidson made a most efficient commander and was promoted to a majority. Captain Drake's friends expect him to do as well or better. The Ocala Rifles, thru no fault of their own, were not sent to the front in the war of eighteen years ago, but they are not likely to have such a bloodless record this time.

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THE HYPHEN IN POLITICS

(Chicago Tribune)

Before the United States can be completely nationalized it must get rid of alien nationalism. To some extent the cure will be found in time. A new nation being formed of many nationalities cannot look for a miracle. It cannot completely and instantly destroy motherland traditions in the affections of its naturalized citizens.

A stock which could have such traditions destroyed in such fashion would be a stock incapable of national perceptions and emotions. It would be incapable of giving loyalty to a new nation. A nation made of such peoples would be only geographical.

What a nation in formation hopes to do is to command instant loyalty and gradually eradicate every particle of alienism, even the harmless forms of it. When American nationalism is fully developed there will be no such things as German clubs, Swedish clubs, Polish societies, Bohemian societies, etc., nor even for the purposes of athletics, music or any form of sociability, or for any sort of enterprise. The existence of such societies indicates the incomplete fusing of elements to citizenship.

In a completely nationalized America the distinguishing labels of alienism will disappear, and until they do disappear America will not be completely nationalized. In the meantime we have them, and time alone will account for them. In time citizens will not form choruses as German choruses, and shooting clubs as German shooting clubs, and citizens will not go to Sunday concerts as Swedes because the concerts are Swedish, or as Poles because the concerts are Polish.

These organizations are harmless, but they will and must disappear when complete American nationalization has been achieved. Two forces can keep them in existence longer than they would remain naturally. One is the desire of the various nationals to preserve something indicative of their descent, just as various American societies endeavor to link themselves to periods and achievements of colonial history. The other force may be one directed against the organizations by people who object to them.

Any nationality in the United States will stiffen under attack. Under attack its organization will gain cohesion and solidity. If the hyphen is to be a political issue, and if common sense and good judgment are not used, the ostensible purpose of the Americanizing propaganda will be defeated by the methods used to further it.

If the Poles, Bohemians or Swedes were subjected to violent criticism they would become more consciously and stubbornly Poles, Bohemians, or Swedes. If the Germans are to be damned all over the country as traitors unworthy of franchise, they will be more consciously and stubbornly Germans.

If we set one nationality against

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St. Augustine, Fla.—"This is to certify that I have used 'Favorite Prescription' and recommend it to be fine for troubles peculiar to women, as it helped me and proved all that Dr. Pierce claims it to be."—Mrs. E. E. FOSTER, 99 King St.

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another in this country we shall create an Austro-Hungary here, not the United States of America. The descendants of all these people must make the United States, if it is to be made, and make it by uniting, by eradicating every distinguishing mark of alienism.

To the extent that any citizens of foreign descent are unwilling to work to this end and have this as an aspiration they are bad citizens of the United States. To the extent that any citizens make the work of nationalizing difficult by showing hatred they are bad citizens of the United States.

What irritates and dismays great masses of the American people is an attempt to organize the government of the United States for German purposes. What enrages great numbers of people of German blood is an attempt to organize the government against Germany. Both these efforts are un-American. They reveal that, in the thoughts of the people engaged in them, the United States is negligible and that something outside the United States is paramount.

Germans are not the only ones who need to be Americanized. Some Americans need it.

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